Atrocities on Women

5. DR. (SHRIMATI) BHARATI RAY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the replies to the Unstarred Questions 1678 and 1691 given in the Rajya Sabha on 31st July, 1996 and state:

(a) the legislative changes in the relevant Acts referred to in the replies;

(b) by when the changes are likely to be made;

(c) the steps taken to provide legal awareness among women;

(d) whether Government are thinking of introducing any new legislation for taking severe legal action against such humiliations of women;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) and (b) The legislative changes under reference are those which have been made, inter alia, over a period of time, in the Dowry Prohibition Act, Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, Indian Penal Code, Indian Evidence Act and Criminal Procedure Code in order to make them more effective.

(c) Among other steps, a legal literacy manual has been brought out with the aim of educating women about the laws concerning their basic rights.

(d) to (f) The introduction of new legislation/legislative changes in the existing enactments is an on-going process. It is, however, felt that this has to be necessarily supplemented by socio-economic measures which will bring about the requisite changes in societal attitudes towards women.

Installation of Fax Machine in Post Offices

6. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to instal Fax machine in every Post Office in Municipal areas;

(b) whether any such scheme has been considered for selected Municipal areas in Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) No, Sir. There is no proposal to instal fax machine in every Post Office in Municipal areas.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Question does not arise.

Extension of Telecom Network in Gujarat

7. SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the area in Gujarat which have not been covered under the communication network so far, district-wise;

(b) whether any representations have been received from that State to extend the area of the communication;

(c) whether these areas are completely cut-off from national communication network; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) The information is given as per Statement district-wise. (See below).

(b) No sir.

(c) Yes sir.

(d) Telephone facility is proposed to be provided to these villages progressively during next two years.

Statement

Number of villages without Telecom. Facilities as on 1-9-96.

Sr. No.	Name of District	Total number of villages	Villages with telephone facility	Villages without telephone facility
1.	Ahmadabad	646	582	64
2.	Gandhinagar	73	71	2